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Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure Requested
Group 1772

11/15
12/6/02
12/6/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): AOTA, et al.
Serial No.: 09/828,837
Filed: April 10, 2001
For: EXTRUDED FRAME MEMBER FOR USE IN FRICTION STIR WELDING
Group: 1772
Examiner: C. Simone

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box AF
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 2, 2002

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 2, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13 without prejudice or disclaimer, and add the following new claims to the application:

--14. An extruded frame member for use in friction stir welding, said extruded frame member including at least one plate, wherein:

at least one end portion of a width of said at least one plate of said extruded frame member is provided respectively with a thickened part which protrudes from a side of said at least one plate of said extruded frame member, in a thickness